CALNE URBAN DISTRICT.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Calne for 1923.

This report is compiled in accordance with directions issued by the Ministry of Health.

I.—General Statistics.

AREA	356 acres
POPULATION—	
By Census 1921	3640
as calculated by Registrar General for purposes of Vital Statistics	3667
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921	895
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	902
Rateable Value	£15,153
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (1921-22)	£55 19s. 9d.

II.—Extracts from Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS—	Males	Females	
Legitimate	33	26	
Illegitimate	1	0	
			Total 60

Birth Rate (R.G.) 16.3 per 1000 inhabitants.

DEATHS—	Males	Females	
	21	15	Total 36

Deaths (R.G.) 9.8 per 1000 inhabitants.

Number of Women dying in consequence of childbirth.

a. from Sepsis.	0
b. from other causes	0

Deaths of Children under 1 year—

	Males	Females	
Legitimate	1	1	Total 2
Illegitimate (included above)	1		

Death Rate per 1000 births 55.8.

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which calls for special comment.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Diarrhœa under 2 years.

III.

Age Groups.	Under 5	Under 10	Under 15	Under 20	Under 35	Under 45	Total	Sent to Hospital
Diptheria ...								
Scarlet Fever ...	4	5	1	1			11	11
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)							0	0
Puerpual Fever ...							0	0
Pneumonia ...							0	0
Malaria ...								0

There were no deaths from Infectious Disease.

Chicken Pox was made locally notifiable. The M.O.H. visited certain cases notified for verification.

Tuberculosis (Notification of)—

Age Groups.	Under 5	Under 10	Under 20	Under 35	Under 45	Under 65	Total
Pulmonary—							
Male ...				2	1	1	6
Female ...				1	1		
Non-Pulmonary ...						1	1

There were 2 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, these deaths had been previously notified. The notification of Tuberculosis cases is efficient and no action is required to enforce it.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—

One case was notified, which recovered completely.

IV.—Causes of Sickness.

During the year there was no special cause of sickness which needs comment.

V.—Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District.

Professional nursing in the Home—

a. This is provided by a Nurse who attends the patients in their homes. This provision is supervised by a local Committee and is very efficient. No assistance is given by County Council or Local Authority.

b. There is no local scheme for nursing cases of such Infectious Diseases as Measles, but help can be obtained from the Local Authority if occasion arises.

Midwife—

One Midwife practices in the District. She is self supporting.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—There are none.

Hospitals—

Provided by Local Authority or County Council.

1. Tuberculosis.—None.
2. Maternity.—None.
3. Children.—None.
4. Fever.—Calne Isolation Hospital.
5. Small Pox.—Accommodation is provided by the County Council at Swindon Small Pox Hospital for local cases.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children other than Calne Union Workhouse.

Ambulances—

a. Infectious cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital in an ambulance which is kept there.

b. Accidents and Illness.—There is an ambulance for the joint use of Calne and Chippenham which is stationed at Chippenham.

V.—Laboratory Work.

All Pathological and Bacteriological examinations required are sent to the University of Bristol Pathological Laboratory. The Local Authority pays for those required in cases of Enteric, Diphtheria and Tuberculosis.

Anti-Diptheria serum is issued to Medical practitioners as required.

VI.—Adoptive Acts, &c.

1. Public Law Amendment Act, 1890, Part III.
2. Ditto Part V.
3. Ditto 1907

Parts II. and III. (Sect. 34-51), IV, V, VI, VII.

Part X (Sect. 92, 93 and 95).

The Byelaws of the Borough were made 16th July, 1888, and others were added August 5th, 1904, 11th September, 1904, and 11th September, 1911.

VII.—Sanitary Administration.

The Sanitary Inspector has done the following work :—

a. Closets—

Conversion of Pail Closets to Water Carriage System	0
Number of Pail Closets remaining at end of year	58
Number of W.C's ditto	616

b. Inspection of places where Food is prepared,

2 Bacon Factories
5 Slaughter Houses
6 Bakehouses
1 Fried Fish Shop

The Bacon Factories and Slaughter Houses are inspected every week at least. The Bakehouses from time to time.

4,256 lbs. meat have been condemned for human consumption and destroyed.

c. Number of Slaughter Houses registered and licensed 5

These are kept thoroughly clean ; there have been no causes of complaint during the year.

68 other inspections were made which are not covered by above particulars. 16 complaints were received, investigated and remedied.

d. Disinfection of all houses where Infectious Diseases have occurred is carried out at the public expense, and clothes, bedding, etc , are disinfected at the Isolation Hospital on a Thresh's Disinfector.

16 Houses and 1 School were disinfected during the year.

Cowsheds, Pigstyes, and Market Vehicles, &c., are also disinfected whenever infectious diseases arise among cattle, &c.

e. WATER—

No well has been condemned.

No new service has been laid on.

The improved supply of water from the Calne Water Company's service continues to give entire satisfaction

f. SEWERAGE—

The Council has decided to remodel the Sewage Farm on modern lines.

g. SCAVENGING—

616 houses have been dealt with (60 of these being at the new Housing site, from which the house refuse and sewage is taken by arrangement with the Rural Authority.)

35 informal notices for removal of ashes, &c., have been issued and complied with.

h. Action under Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops Order—

nil

i. Action under Sale of Food and Drugs' Acts and the Milk and Cream Regulations—

The Council is *not* a Local Authority under these Acts.

VIII.—Public Health Staff.

There is a Medical Officer of Health and a Sanitary Inspector. Both are Part-time Officers. There are no other Officers.

IX.—Housing.

1. Number of new houses erected during the year :—

   a. Total 0

   b. As part of new housing scheme 0

   Town Council's scheme is outside the Borough, and comprises 60 houses which are now all occupied.

2. ***Unfit Dwelling Houses—***

   Inspection.

   1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 62
   2. Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 62
   3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2
   4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 0

3. *Remedy of defects without service of formal notices*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Sanitary Authority or their Officers 37

4. *Action under Statutory Powers—*

a. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit

a. by Owners 2

b. by Local Authority in default of Owners 0

3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by Owners of intention to close 0

b. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 34

2. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied

a. by Owners 34

b. by Local Authority in default of Owners 0

c. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909,

1. Number of representations made with a view to making of Closing Orders 0

2. Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

3.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	0
4.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
5.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

RALPH S. FERGUSON,
M.O.H. Urban District of Calne.